

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE COMMUNITY OF PUEBLO

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I now take this moment to recognize the wonderful city of Pueblo, Colorado, a city I am proud to represent in the U.S. House of Representatives. Pueblo recently received national attention when it was named one of the Most Livable Communities in the United States by Partners for Livable Communities, a non-profit organization committed to improving America's collective quality of life.

Pueblo has a storied past, a vibrant present, and promising future, all of which make it most deserving of this high honor. It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I now pay tribute to Pueblo, Colorado, one of America's most livable cities.

The beautiful city of Pueblo is located south of Denver in the shadows of Colorado's Sangre de Cristo Mountains. In 1886, four distinct towns were incorporated into one, forming what is now the magnificent community of Pueblo. In the century since, the community has played a major role in shaping Colorado's character, be it socially, culturally, or economically.

Early on, Pueblo was home to smelting plants that helped refine ore extracted from surrounding mines. These plants fueled in large part the community's economic activity. Moreover, Pueblo also played a key part in the early national race to establish railroads across Colorado's Rocky Mountains. Thanks in large measure to these and other industrial activities, Pueblo rapidly became a booming economic hub.

Pueblo's industrial muscle flourished in the many decades after its inception, until the 1980's when an economic downturn crippled the city's once burgeoning steel industry. Undeterred by tough times, community leaders from all walks of life closed ranks, fighting together to restore Pueblo's civic strength and economic vibrancy. Ultimately, this broad based local effort spurred a remarkable economic resurgence that continues even today. Pueblo's vitality is displayed each year when the city hosts the Colorado State Fair, highlighting the diversity and strength of Colorado's heritage.

Nothing better symbolizes that resurgence than the Historic Arkansas Restoration project, a local effort to draw business activity along the refurbished banks of the Arkansas River which cuts through the heart of Pueblo. On October 6, 2000, the landmark Riverwalk Project will be dedicated. When it is, it will be a symbolic statement of Pueblo's economic and cultural re-awakening that continues to thrive in this new century.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the State of Colorado and the U.S. Congress, I would like to congratulate this wonderful community on being recognized as one of the most livable

communities in the country. Pueblo has a special place in my heart and it is more than deserving of this distinguished recognition.

TRIBUTE TO THE JONESBORO SUN

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a great Arkansas institution, and I am proud to recognize the Jonesboro Sun in the Congress for its invaluable contributions and service to our nation.

Family-owned, independent newspapers are part of a great, albeit vanishing, tradition that goes back to our nation's earliest days.

According to one recent study, independents' share of the daily newspaper circulation dropped from 90 percent in 1990 to 14 percent in 1998. Last year, it was projected that half of America's family-owned dailies—which number less than 300—will be sold within the next five years.

On the morning of Saturday, September 2nd, Northeast Arkansas learned that the Troutt family, owners of the Jonesboro Sun for 99 of its 117 years, decided to sell the newspaper to the Paxton Media Group of Paducah, Kentucky. The Sun is the regional newspaper serving a dozen counties in the First Congressional District of Arkansas.

The Jonesboro Sun is a mainstream newspaper that has always emphasized fair and thorough coverage of the day-to-day news that affects the lives of eastern Arkansas residents. A great newspaper should always serve as the conscience of the area and the readers it serves. The Sun has played that vital role in the lives of many of our citizens.

The Sun is a great newspaper, not an entertainment-driven publication that feeds on this nation's cult of celebrity. The Troutt family operated the Sun more as a legacy than a business. It has been a profitable business, but also an understated, integral part of the community.

"Independent" means many things to many people. The dictionary definition is "free from the control of others," but that is just part of its meaning when applied to an independent newspaper like the Jonesboro Sun. In the first place, it is free from the control of a distant corporate headquarters when it comes to a sensitive or controversial story that an influential person might seek to suppress. The Sun's corporate headquarters has been contiguous to the newsroom, where management and ownership is only a few steps away to make sure the facts are presented fairly.

Independent also means freedom from the influence of advertisers. An independent paper can choose to publish or not publish an article based on an objective evaluation of its newsworthiness. This decision is made in the newsroom—not in the advertising department.

John Troutt, Jr. the Sun's editor and publisher, did not worry about the bottom line

when he was filing more Freedom of Information Act lawsuits than any other publisher in Arkansas. He did not worry about the bottom line or journalism awards while directing the newspaper's coverage of the Westside Middle School shooting tragedy in March 1998. He made the tough calls without regard to overtime and newsprint costs. He made these decisions because he is a newspaperman.

Still, the Sun was the first runner-up for the Pulitzer Prize for its coverage of the Westside shootings.

Due to technology, as well as the economic and estate tax conditions that exist today, it has become increasingly difficult for independent newspapers to survive. Yet the independent local paper is most often the conscience, face, and voice of the community. The conglomerates that now dominate the newspaper industry must now rise to the challenge to fill the void left by these disappearing institutions.

With this in mind, I was very pleased to read the words of Fred Paxton, the chairman of the Paxton Media Group, which is assuming responsibility for the Sun.

"As is the case with the Troutts, ours is a family-owned newspaper company," Paxton noted. "As we have grown, we have sought to combine the best elements of local family ownership with the advantages and operating efficiencies of a larger organization."

"We have a philosophy about the role a newspaper should play in its community, but we rely on local managers to adapt that philosophy to each community in which we operate. We believe a newspaper should be a reflection of the community it serves," Paxton emphasized. "Publishers and editors make the final decisions about news and editorial content, and virtually every key business decision is made at the local level."

John Troutt, Jr., representing the third-generation of the family directing the operations of the Jonesboro Sun, observed that the Paxton Media Group is a fourth-generation family-owned media company with more than a century of history in the newspaper industry.

It is important that family newspapers survive, because I believe family ownership can make a difference. But most importantly, I hope we will always have newspapers like the Jonesboro Sun, with an independent spirit and the courage to report the truth with fairness. Our democracy depends on it.

CONGRATULATING SAN LEANDRO FOR BEING CHOSEN TO PARTICIPATE IN FEMA'S PROJECT IMPACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate San Leandro, California for being chosen as a participant in FEMA's Project Impact. San Leandro's hard work and dedication

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

to preventing natural disasters has given this city the opportunity to participate in this important program that provides increased federal resources for further disaster mitigation projects. I would like to recognize the hard work on the part of the city of San Leandro to make their community safer in the event of a natural disaster.

Located at the apex of the two segments of the Hayward Fault, San Leandro is at risk primarily from earthquakes, although the risk of flood and other natural disasters is very real. Alameda County, in which San Leandro is located, has been declared a federal disaster area several times since 1950. This has included the Loma Prieta earthquake, two fires, one freeze, and eleven floods.

Following the Loma Prieta earthquake, San Leandro realized it needed to make a commitment to disaster prevention. The San Leandro City Council established a plan called the Partnership for Preparedness Program that, along with other actions San Leandro has taken, helped lead to its designation as a Project Impact community. The hard work of the local officials will provide San Leandro increased federal resources to further protect the city from natural disasters.

Local officials have also established a disaster council, a formal city council committee chaired by Mayor Sheila Young. This committee meets quarterly to discuss mitigation and preparedness issues. In addition, San Leandro has published a Hazard Mitigation Master Plan, which has resulted in plans to retrofit buildings to prevent damage in the event of an earthquake.

Project Impact operates on a common-sense damage-reduction approach. Project Impact encourages communities to develop disaster prevention programs by working with citizens and the private sector. Success depends on long-term efforts and investments in preventive measures. Communities benefit from their participation in the program from FEMA's expertise and technical assistance at the national and regional level. FEMA works with community officials to incorporate the latest technology and mitigation practices.

I am very proud that San Leandro has been able to build the public-private partnerships necessary to be chosen a participant in Project Impact. The hard work of the local officials will prevent the future loss of life and property. I congratulate San Leandro for working with the business community and citizens to maximize all available resources to make the community safer.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES R. TRIMBLE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Charles R. Trimble, former C.E.O. and Chairman of Trimble Navigation, who is receiving the American Electronics Association's (AEA) forty-seventh Medal of Achievement for his leadership in advancing and commercializing global positioning system (GPS) solutions.

Charles Trimble exemplifies the innovative and entrepreneurial spirit for which Silicon Valley is internationally recognized. In 1978,

Charles Trimble left the comfort and security of Hewlett-Packard, where he helped develop significant scientific achievements in signal processing, high-speed analog-to-digital converters, and digital time measurement techniques, to establish his own start-up company, Trimble Navigation. Once housed in an old, reconstructed theater, Trimble Navigation now has 23 offices in 15 countries and annual revenues that exceed \$270 million. It was the first publicly held company engaged solely in developing and distributing GPS solutions. His business acumen and success persuaded INC Magazine to name him "Entrepreneur of the Year" in 1991.

During his 20-year tenure at Trimble Navigation, Charles Trimble democratized the use of GPS technology, putting it into the hands of different constituencies that have employed GPS products in ways not originally imagined. Trimble's GPS technology now accompanies pilots in the air, climbers on Mount Everest, farmers in the Mid-West and merchants at sea. Trimble's products have increased the accuracy of scientific research, hydrographic surveying and even golf course construction. Charles Trimble's ability to communicate his vision is the source of Trimble Navigation's great success. For his work, he earned the 1996 Kershner Award and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics' 1994 Piper General Aviation Award.

But Charles Trimble is more than just a voice for his company—he is also a voice for his industry. Since 1996, Charles Trimble has served as Chairman of the United States GPS Industry Council, unifying the industry behind a common message to policy makers, industry officials and the media.

Charles Trimble's expertise and influence extend beyond the GPS industry. He sat on the Vice President's Space Policy Advisory Board's task group exploring the future of the U.S. Space Industrial Base for the National Space Council. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Engineering. Charles Trimble was also a member of the Board of Governors for the National Center for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and a Member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

AEA's Medal of Achievement award recognizes that behind all great scientific achievements are exceptional people. I join the Silicon Valley community and the electronics industry in recognizing Charles Trimble as one of the remarkable individuals that has shaped the direction of this new economy and this new era of technological advancement.

I ask my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to join me in honoring this great and good man whom I am proud to know and represent. We are indeed a better nation and a better people because of him.

HONORING THE ANIMAS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to honor a truly remarkable group of individuals who risk their lives to protect the health and safety of their community. The individuals I speak of make-up the

Animas Fire Protection District, a volunteer program that has worked to ensure safety in Southern Colorado for nearly three decades. It is the dedication and hard work from the members of the District that I would like to congratulate as they celebrate their 30th Anniversary.

Unlike many fire protection programs, this one is primarily volunteer. It began in 1970 under the name Durango Fire with \$12,000 and under two dozens volunteers. In the time since, it has grown to encompass a \$1.6 million budget, using over 100 volunteers in 12 different fire stations.

During the last three decades, through long hours and many perilous situations, the Animas District has maintained an efficient and effective program that guarantees rapid response and much needed protection from the harm of a fire. Whether it is fighting structure fires within town or battling the blazes at nearby Mesa Verde National Park, the volunteers of Animas Protection District have ensured that there community is as safe as possible from one of Mother Nature's most dangerous elements.

Volunteers and Staff of the Animas Fire Protection District, you have served your community, State and Nation bravely and admirably, and for that your neighbors are grateful.

On behalf of the State of Colorado and the U.S. Congress, I thank you for your commitment to the safety and well being of the members the La Plata County and its surrounding communities. You make us all very proud!

TRIBUTE TO JOHN TROUTT, JR.

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Arkansan, and I am proud to recognize John Troutt, Jr. in the Congress for his invaluable contributions and service to our nation.

John Troutt, Jr. for many defines the daily newspaperman. Almost anyone can call himself or herself an editor or publisher, but few can fill the role of a newspaperman. He is an anachronism in this corporate-driven world that equates bigger with better.

A highly successful businessman, he has stood at the helm of The Jonesboro Sun for decades, guiding the growth of The Sun from a small afternoon daily newspaper to the largest, independent family-owned publication in Arkansas that serves as the regional morning paper in the Northeast area of the state. His recent announcement that The Sun will be sold to the Paxton Media Group of Paducah, Kentucky, was felt across the state of Arkansas. Other newspapermen have paid tribute to Troutt in recent weeks after learning The Sun was up for sale.

For two decades he has served as editor, overseeing the newsroom, and as publisher, overseeing the business side of the newspaper, in addition to assuming the role of night editor two nights a week, in charge of putting out the next morning's edition. Very few newspapermen have had the love of the business or sufficient stamina—he will be 71 in October—to fulfill his many roles, much less fulfill them with his energy and passion.

Every day he writes The Sun's editorials. Readers have no difficulty understanding where he stands. He has not hesitated to call on public officials and bodies to correct what he views as an errant course.

In newspaper circles, he is best known for his beliefs in the tenets of the first amendment. He has filed more lawsuits than any other Arkansas editor or publisher to enforce the provisions of the state Freedom of Information Act. "The public's business should be done in public" is his oft-repeated philosophy.

John has been a mentor, advisor, and friend to all of Northeast Arkansas. He has dedicated his life to serving his fellow citizens as a leader in both his profession and his community, and he deserves our respect and gratitude for his contributions. On behalf of the Congress, I extend congratulations and best wishes to my good friend John Troutt, Jr. on his successes and achievements.

HONORING AL MOLITOR

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding achievements of an extraordinary man, Al Molitor. For 35 years, Mr. Molitor has served in the administration of public health and welfare programs for non-profit organizations and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In addition, the contributions he has made within the Montgomery County community and particularly the Abington-Rockledge Democratic Committee are invaluable.

Al earned his bachelor of arts from Temple University and continued his studies at the Bryn Mawr School of Social Work and Research where he received his master of social service degree. Al has held leadership positions in state public health and social work professional associations. He has served on the Abington Township Library Board, in parent-teacher organizations and the Boy Scouts. He also organized the Old York Road Genealogical Society, and served as its president for nearly 4 years.

Al has been a prominent figure within the Abington-Rockledge Democratic Committee for a number of years and became chairman in 1994. He also served as chair of the Montgomery County Voter Registration Drive from 1992-1994. His work within the Democratic community in Montgomery County is unparalleled and much appreciated. With a solid Republican background, Al found himself as a non-partisan when he moved to Abington in 1958, but quickly found a home within the Democratic community in Montgomery County. In spite of an extremely busy public life, Al remains devoted to his family. He and his wife, Natalie, have two children, Elizabeth and Steve, and three grandchildren.

It is an honor and a privilege to acknowledge the dedication and contributions of Al Molitor who has served his community well.

VALUE OF ESTABLISHING THE SWISS CENTER OF NORTH AMERICA

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, our nation was built on the dreams of immigrants who came here to create a better life for themselves and their families. The ethnic diversity of the American patchwork quilt makes this nation strong and has helped our nation become the envy of much of the world.

I am proud to be from a state whose ethnic heritage can be seen in our faces, our foods and families. Wisconsin is a state made up of settlers who came from the far corners of the world to build their businesses, raise their families and stake their claims for a piece of the American Dream.

There is an exciting new project underway in my congressional district that has national and international implications. The Swiss Center of North America is proposed to be located in New Glarus, Wisconsin. This new center will facilitate historical research, cultural exchanges and business partnerships extending beyond the beautiful rolling countryside of America's Dairyland.

Like many ethnic groups, the Swiss came to North America in large numbers in the 19th Century, settling in each state of this Union and every province of Canada. They brought their traditions, culture, languages, foods and a rich heritage that have made a lasting impact throughout this continent. The Swiss government helped these new immigrants by setting up colonies for their countrymen and women on this side of the Atlantic to ease the transition into the New World.

One such colony remains largely intact, located in New Glarus, Wisconsin. This community, which I am honored to represent in Congress, continues to celebrate its Swiss heritage, attracting Swiss immigrants and welcome visitors from around the world.

Many in North America are not aware of the accomplishments of their Swiss-American neighbors. The Swiss have brought a multi-cultural background encompassing elements from German, French, Italian and Roman heritages. Many thing of Switzerland as a land of Alpine meadows, decorated cowbells and colorful window boxes. Yet this fails to fully recognize the very modern, multilingual and multi-cultural aspects of this small, yet diverse, nation.

Those of Swiss descent in North America are very proud of their heritage, as Switzerland has made many important contributions to the world. Yet, unlike many other nationalities, there is no permanent venue to showcase Swiss cultural, economic, historic, and social contributions in North America. I hope that is about to change.

The Swiss Center of North America aims to be a state-of-the-art facility located in New Glarus, Wisconsin. It will highlight the contributions of the Swiss of yesterday, today and tomorrow. With historical exhibits, modern interactive displays, genealogical research facilities and premiere meeting space, the Swiss Center will help spread the word that Swiss living in the United States, Canada and Mexico continue to offer much to the North American

melting pot. The State of Wisconsin has already committed \$2 million to this project and an international fund-raising drive is now well underway.

I support the Swiss Center of North America not just because it will be located in my district. I support it because those of Swiss heritage need a place to house their artifacts and tell their story. This is a valuable project, in part, because learning more about where we come from helps guide us to where we are going. The more future generations learn about this nation, the more they understand about our rich diversity. The Swiss Center of North America will help foster a better understanding between cultures and will offer us the promise of a broader appreciation of the heritage of our international ancestors.

THANKING WOLODYMYR LUCKHAN FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES DURING WORLD WAR II

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I thank one of my constituents, Wolodymyr Luckhan, for the heroic action he took during World War II to save an American tank division from an enemy ambush near Swizel, Germany, in April 1945. Mr. Luckhan, seized by the Germans into forced labor, overheard the impending attack against an American tank force approaching the city of Swizel. Mr. Luckhan commandeered a boy's bicycle and peddled through German lines, risking his life to reach the Allied forces. Without his timely warning, the loss of American lives would have been considerable. Mr. Luckhan's example once again demonstrates that the virtue of selflessness merits recognition.

After the war, Mr. Luckhan came to the United States, became a citizen and raised a family. At age 91, Mr. Luckhan still recalls the event that changed the course of history for so many. Walt Whitman wrote that "To have great poets, there must be great audiences, too." I present Mr. Wolodymyr Luckhan as a spokesperson for freedom whose stage for heroism was made possible by the great audience of men and women who gave their lives in service of our country and those who, thanks to the efforts of people such as Mr. Luckhan, have survived to share in the quality of life that only this great nation can afford.

SERBIA DEMOCRATIZATION ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1064, the Serbia and Montenegro Democracy Act. This resolution coincides with the highly important general elections held in Serbia on September 24, 2000. We can only hope that the ongoing election count at this hour reflects a fair, free, and open election, Mr. Speaker.

As we all know, Yugoslav President Milosevic has maintained his power in Serbia throughout the 1990s through a combination of virulent Serb nationalism and outright oppression.

The violence that occurred in Kosovo was brutal and a dramatic affront to the inhabitants of those environs. He has also tried to silence democratic opponents in Montenegro—the only remaining republic outside Serbia in the Yugoslav Federation. Now, the democratic opposition must be given every incentive to flourish in Serbia and Montenegro.

This bill authorizes as much as \$50 million to support democratization of the Republic of Serbia (excluding Kosovo) and \$55 million in support of ongoing political and economic reforms and democratization in the Republic of Montenegro.

H.R. 1064 directs the radio and television broadcasting to Yugoslavia in both the Serbo-Croatian and Albanian languages be carried out by the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Inc. The message of democracy and human rights can be disseminated directly to the people of Serbia if we use all technological means at our disposal. The bill also provides funds for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to facilitate contacts by democracy activists in Serbia and Montenegro with their counterparts in other countries.

The bill contains some measures that hold the worst human rights abusers accountable. H.R. 1064 maintains sanctions against the government of Yugoslavia until the following conditions are met—agreement on a lasting settlement in Kosovo; compliance with the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina; implementation of internal democratic reform; settlement of all succession issues with the other republics that emerged from the break-up of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia; and cooperation with the International Criminal Court for the former Yugoslavia indicted by the tribunal.

The bill also blocks all Yugoslav assets in the United States; restricts U.S. citizens from doing business with the Yugoslav government; prohibits U.S. visas to senior Yugoslav government officials and their families; and restricts non-humanitarian U.S. assistance to Yugoslavia.

Finally, the bill directs the President to coordinate multilateral sanctions on the governments of Serbia and Yugoslavia; requires that the United States fully support the investigation of President Slobodan Milosevic by the International Criminal Court for the former Yugoslavia for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and grave breaches of the Geneva Convention; directs the President to report to Congress on the information provided to the tribunal; and urges the President to condemn the harassment of ethnic Hungarian inhabitants in Vojvodina.

HONORING JOHN KIDNEY

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, today I acknowledge the accomplishments of John Kidney. John has been an integral member of the

Abington Rockledge Democratic Committee in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania since 1966 and it has been a privilege to work so closely with him over the years.

John was raised in Hartford, Connecticut where his political career began. At the age of 17, he was appointed a delegate from East Windsor, Connecticut to the 1944 Democratic State Convention. While earning his undergraduate degree from Yale University, John served as president of the Yale Young Democrats and was invited to be a political commentator at a local radio station during the 1948 presidential election.

Upon completion of an MBA from Harvard University, John and his wife Polly moved to Montgomery County. In 1958 they relocated to Italy and did not return to the United States until the mid 1960's. He and Polly have four children and six beautiful grandchildren. John has served as a committee person and the Treasurer of the Abington-Rockledge Democratic Committee since 1971.

John worked for Rohm and Haas Corporation in various financial positions from 1951 to 1991. After retiring from Rohm and Haas, he managed investments and administered charitable grant programs for the Haas family.

John's expertise and knowledge in the political arena are invaluable assets. It is an honor and a privilege to recognize John Kidney and the outstanding contributions he has made to the Democratic community in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

COMMENDING THE PEOPLE OF
SWITZERLAND FOR REJECTING A
LIMIT ON FOREIGNERS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, we tend to be quick to criticize and slow to praise. Earlier the Swiss were subjected to intense international criticism for the policies and practices of Swiss banks during World War II. The Swiss government and Swiss banks have moved in the right direction since that matter became an issue of international concern.

Mr. Speaker, this past weekend the people of Switzerland in a national referendum demonstrated their willingness to act in a remarkably enlightened fashion on an issue that is sensitive and that has been subject to demagoguery. By a vote of nearly 64 percent, Swiss voters decisively rejected a proposal to reduce the number of foreigners in their country to 18 percent of the total population. A majority of voters in all of the 26 Swiss cantons rejected the proposal. To their credit, the Swiss Cabinet urged voters to reject the proposal.

This was a serious issue, Mr. Speaker, because foreigners currently make up about 19.3 percent of the population of Switzerland—some 1.4 million out of a population of 7.2 million, almost one in five residents of the country, are foreigners. A quarter of the Swiss work-force is foreign. These figures are high even by European standards. Austria and Sweden, both of which have among the highest foreign population in the nations of the European Union, have only about one in nine foreigners living in their countries.

Mr. Speaker, the action of the Swiss people in this referendum was enlightened and informed, and it dealt a blow in the fight against far-right and neo-Nazi fringe groups, who support placing limits on foreigners in Switzerland. It is important that we acknowledge and commend the Swiss people and the Swiss government on this decisive and most encouraging result.

HMONG VETERANS' NATURALIZATION
ACT AMENDMENTS OF
2000—EXTEND NATURALIZATION
TO FORMER SPOUSES OF DE-
CEASED HMONG VETERANS

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this legislation to exempt the widows of the Hmong veterans from certain citizenship requirements.

The Hmong are a mountain people mainly found in southern China and northern areas of Burma, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. Beginning in the 1950s, Hmong soldiers fought the communist Pathet Lao movement in Laos and later assisted U.S. forces during the Vietnam War. The Hmong aided U.S. forces, collected intelligence, rescued downed American pilots, protected sensitive U.S. military installations monitoring the Ho Chi Minh Trail and tied down an estimated 50,000 North Vietnamese troops in Laos. When the war ended, the Pathet Lao took power in Laos and persecuted and imprisoned many of the Hmong allies of the United States.

The Hmong come from a tribal society that, until recently, had no written language and many have found it difficult to naturalize because of their difficulty in learning English. This legislation would exempt them from this difficult requirement. Currently this same exemption has been given to those men and their spouses who served with a special unit, operating from a base in Laos in support of the U.S. military. It is time to extend this same exemption to the widows of these men.

This is a great step for the widows who were not covered under the Hmong Veterans' Naturalization Act. The Hmong have faced insurmountable odds with the English language portion of the citizenship exam. This bill provides a needed form of relief in the citizenship process by exempting the widows from that portion of the exam.

Mr. Speaker, these women are the same spouses of men who sacrificed everything to help us. Many of their husbands gave their lives to save U.S. pilots and other Americans. They fought side-by-side with the U.S. forces and then lost everything. This legislation represents what the Congress can do to provide for the widows of these brave men.

DEBT RELIEF AND RETIREMENT
SECURITY RECONCILIATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, there is absolutely no reason for us to be here today debating this bill. Recently the House passed the "Debt Relief Lockbox Reconciliation Act" which was nothing more than an attempt by my Republican colleagues to grandstand on their new conversion to a party that claims to care about reducing the national debt. Today, we are here with another version of a bill that does the same thing. In addition, this bill tack on a so-called pension reform bill that has also already passed the House. The Comprehensive Retirement Security and Pension Reform Act passed the House this summer by a vote of 401–25. It didn't have my support then and it won't have my support today.

So why are we here again debating the same measures we've already debated—and passed? The leadership believes it will help them in the upcoming elections. This debt relief bill is meaningless filler for the GOP agenda. And the pension bill is bad policy. It benefits the wealthy and does nothing to help low-income workers who are most in need of retirement incentives.

Although the pension bill implies that it will help all workers, it serves to help those earning an average income of \$337,800. More than forty-two percent of the pension and IRA tax breaks will go to the 5% of the population with the highest incomes—those making over \$134,000 annually and an average income of \$337,000. In sharp contrast, the bottom 60 percent of the population (those making less than \$41,000) would receive less than 5% of these tax benefits.

When the Democrats offered a substitute bill to give low-income workers incentives to save for their retirement, my GOP colleagues scoffed at the idea claiming that it was too expensive. In other words, it's too expensive to help rank and file workers save for their retirement, but it's completely affordable to help top executives accumulate wealth for their retirement. The Democratic substitute offered incentives to small businesses to sponsor retirement plans for their low-wage and young workers. I supported this substitute bill because it attempted to help those workers who need it most.

If this Congress plans to spend \$55 billion on the wealthy, then we should be able to offer the same pension opportunities to those who currently do not save for retirement. I opposed H.R. 1102 when it came to the floor in July and I oppose the bill before us today.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF
EDUCATION FOR ALL HANDI-
CAPPED CHILDREN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues in voicing

my support for House Concurrent Resolution 399, which recognizes the federal government's responsibility to educate all handicapped children in our nation. November 29, 2000 will mark the 25th Anniversary of the Education for all Handicapped Children's Act passage into law (Public Law 94–142). The act was later renamed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

The IDEA established the federal government's objective of educating all of America's children, including those with severe disabilities. In 1986, the act was amended to create a preschool grant program for children ages 3 to 5, with disabilities and an early intervention program for infants and toddlers with disabilities.

Currently, IDEA programs serve an estimated 200,000 infants and toddlers, 600,000 preschoolers and 5.4 million children ages 6 through 21 nationwide. The Houston Independent School District provides educational opportunities for about 21,000 students in the City of Houston through this important program.

I would like to recognize the outstanding work that the Council for Exceptional Children Chapter 100 located in the City of Houston has done. This organization represents the teachers who teach these special children in the Houston area. Because of the dedication of administrators, teachers, parents and the students themselves IDEA can be called an "American Success Story."

I would urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this important Act. I would like to also urge the Senate to act on their version of the Full Funding Bill for IDEA, which is currently awaiting action in the Senate. The House version of this bill H.R. 4055, IDEA Full Funding Act, was passed in the House on Representatives on May 3rd of this year.

TRIBUTE TO BENICIA POLICE
CHIEF OTTO GIULIANI UPON HIS
RETIREMENT**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Benicia Police Chief Otto William Giuliani on the occasion of his retirement after a very busy and successful twenty-eight years of service in law enforcement.

Otto Giuliani began his law enforcement career with the Hayward Police Department, holding numerous positions in his 15-year career there. He was awarded the Hayward Police Department's highest honor, the Medal of Valor, for extraordinary duty on the night of November 29, 1978, when he pried open the door, removed and carried an unconscious man from a wrecked vehicle stuck on the Western Pacific Railroad tracks just as the train struck the vehicle, almost sweeping Officer Giuliani and the victim back into the path of the train. For his action he was recognized by Kiwanis International as Police Officer of the year for 1979 for the California, Nevada and Hawaii Districts, and received the Nathan Hale Award for Heroism.

Otto was a member of the Hayward Kiwanis Club for fifteen years, with eleven years of

perfect attendance, he served as president in 1981. He was charter president and two-time distinguished president of the Livermore Kiwanis Club in 1986 and 1987, with seven years of perfect attendance.

He was a member of the Livermore Police Department for seven years, holding the positions of Captain of both the patrol and investigation divisions during separate and concurrent terms, and fulfilling the role of Acting Chief of Police.

Otto is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigations National Academy (FBI/NA 153rd). He was Chief of Police for the Benicia Police department for eight years during which the department initiated Community Oriented Policing, began a formal School Resource Officer Program dedicating police officers to the campuses of Benicia High School and Benicia Middle School, expanded the DARE program to all fifth grade classes in each public and private school in the city; added three police officers to the department by means of federal and state grants; created a Citizen and Police Partnership Program; began the GREAT program to prevent gang activity from entering Benicia from other cities; conducted Citizen Police Academies; created a Parking Adjudication program which was the first of its kind in the nation for which the department received the Helen Putnam Award for Excellence (the League of California Cities' highest recognition); began a Citizen on Patrol program for which the department received national recognition from the International Association of Chiefs of Police in the form of the Webber Seavey Award for Excellence in Police Service to the Community, and raised the professional development of the department by successful completion of either the FBI National Academy or California POST Command College by all management personnel and enrollment or completion of the California POST Supervisory Leadership Institute by first line supervisors.

Chief Giuliani was appointed City Manager/Chief of Police for the City of Benicia in December, 1994, and served in that capacity for six years, serving the longest career in the State of California in the dual role of City Manager/Chief of Police.

Otto is a member of the Benicia Rotary Club and currently serves as President, is an ex-officio member of the Benicia Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Benicia Police Athletic League (PAL).

Chief Giuliani and his wife Jan have been married for twenty-five years and have a set of twins, Mario and Melissa, age 22. Otto is retiring from law enforcement after twenty-eight years of service, but he will continue to serve as the City Manager of Benicia.

It is clear from his record of achievement that Chief Giuliani has never taken his positions of authority for granted and has excelled at his every endeavor. Many communities in our area have been enriched by his efforts. I wish Chief Giuliani a very happy, healthy and much deserved "retirement," and I thank him for his many contributions to law enforcement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, on Rollcall vote No. 487, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on September 25th, I was unavoidably detained in my home district, and therefore, I was unable to be present on the House floor during votes. Had I been here I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 487.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded on rollcall Nos. 487 and 488. I was unavoidably detained and therefore, could not vote for this legislation. Had I been present, I would have voted, "aye" on rollcall 487 and voted, "aye" on rollcall 488.

HONORING THE SURVIVORS OF
STALAG III-C**HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the survivors of Stalag III-C in Germany during World War II. These brave men endured hardship that few of us can imagine today. These men were starved nearly to death and subjected to bitterly cold winters in unheated huts. Many men languished there for years before being liberated by a Russian tank convoy. However, their ordeal was not over yet.

Stalag III-C was located near the Polish border in the eastern part of Germany. It was January of 1945 when the men were set free. With a war still raging around them, the men set forth to make it to Allied lines. The men traveled on foot through the snow and frigid winds with little food and clothing not suitable for the trek. It took a month and a half for a majority of the men to reach Odessa, Russia. These hardy men walked a distance of approximately 700 miles. Though their struggle had been long, they had reached freedom.

On the weekend of October 13, a group of survivors from Stalag III-C will gather in Hershey, PA, for a time of remembrance. Jackie Kruper of Lebanon, PA, has organized this event inspired by the journal of her father, Sergeant John E. Kruper, who was interned at

the prison camp. Mr. Kruper passed away in 1992.

Let us remember these valiant soldiers in our prayers. Their service to the United States and to democracy around the world shall never be forgotten. I pray that the stories of bravery and survival of these men transcend this one weekend. It is my wish that these stories get passed down through generations, for their sacrifice has truly made this country the land of the free and the brave.

The names of the gentlemen attending the reunion are Kenneth Bargmann, William A. Bonsall, Robert Bell Bradley, William E. Clark, Arley Goodengauf, Maurice J. Markworth, Acie D. Milner, Frank Rosenthal, Kenneth Schaefer, Christopher Schweitzer, Bernard Sterno, Raymond Ulrich, and Mae Hande, who will be attending in place of her departed husband Norman Hande. I know that the United States House of Representatives joins me in saluting these fine men who served their country with honor.

CHANDLER PUMPING PLANT
WATER EXCHANGE FEASIBILITY
STUDY

SPEECH OF

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the benefit of the Members a copy of the cost estimate prepared by the Congressional Budget Office for H.R. 3986, a bill to provide for a study of the engineering feasibility of a water exchange in lieu of electrification of the Chandler Pumping Plant at Prosser Diversion Dam, Washington.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, September 20, 2000.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
Chairman, Committee on Resources, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 3986, a bill to provide for a study of the engineering feasibility of a water exchange in lieu of electrification of the Chandler Pumping Plant at Prosser Diversion Dam, Washington.

If you wish further details of this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact if Rachel Applebaum, who can be reached at 226-2860.

Sincerely,

BARRY B. ANDERSON
(For Dan L. Crippen, Director).

Enclosure.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE, COST
ESTIMATE, SEPTEMBER 20, 2000

(H.R. 3986: A bill to provide for a study of the engineering feasibility of a water exchange in lieu of electrification of the Chandler Pumping Plant at Prosser Diversion Dam, Washington, as reported by the House Committee on Resources on September 19, 2000)

SUMMARY

The Kennewick and Columbia Irrigation Districts in Washington use water diverted from the Yakima River. H.R. 3986 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study, prepare an environmental assessment, and acquire right-of-way areas necessary to divert water from the Co-

lumbia River rather than the Yakima River to meet the needs of these irrigation districts.

Based on information from the Bureau of Reclamation, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3986 would cost \$6 million over the 2001-2003 period, assuming the appropriation of the necessary funds. Enacting H.R. 3986 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 3986 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 3986 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget funding 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Estimated Authorization Level	6	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	1	2	3	0	0

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

Based on information from the Bureau of Reclamation, CBO estimates that the feasibility study and the environmental assessment authorized by the bill would cost \$4 million, and that the acquisition of right-of-way areas for this water diversion project would cost \$2 million.

Current law authorizes the appropriation of \$4 million for an electrification project at the Chandler pumping plant. Although H.R. 3986 authorizes the exchange of water as an alternative to this electrification project, appropriated funds for the electrification project have already been spent by the bureau to study this project and on other activities. Consequently, H.R. 3986 appears to provide new authority to study the exchange of water from the Yakima to the Columbia River and for the acquisition of right-of-way areas.

Pay-as-you-go considerations: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR
IMPACT

H.R. 3986 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local or tribal governments.

Estimate prepared by: Federal Costs: Rachel Applebaum (226-2860); Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Marjorie Miller (225-3220); Impact on the Private Sector: Lauren Marks (226-2940).

Estimate approved by: Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I delivered the keynote address at the Geothermal Resources Council's 2000 Annual Meeting. As a long-time advocate of alternative and renewable energy sources, I was honored to be recognized for my work in this field and privileged to share my thoughts with the more than 450 attendees from across the globe representing geothermal professionals and businesses.

As a result, I missed rollcall vote No. 487. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

COMMENDING THE PROFESSIONAL
LAWN CARE ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICA

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, last July, the Professional Lawn Care Association of Amer-

ica held its annual legislative conference in Washington to address the issues important to its industry.

While they were here, members of the PLCAA took the time to donate their services to two of the most historic sites in this area—Arlington National Cemetery and Congressional Cemetery. In both of these cemeteries, members of the PLCAA enhanced the turf, cut grass, and trimmed trees.

PLCAA members have donated their services to Arlington in past years, but this is the first time they have been to Congressional Cemetery. Congressional Cemetery is of particular interest to me because some illustrious

Georgians are buried there: James Jackson, Revolutionary War General, Governor of Georgia, and U.S. Senator; John Forsyth, U.S. Senator and Secretary of State; and William Shorey Coodey, Senator in the Cherokee Nation.

In 1997 Congressional Cemetery was named by the National Trust for Historic Preservation one of the Eleven Most Endangered Historic Sites in America. It relies on contributions and volunteers to keep up its 32 acre grounds. I commend the PLCAA for its civic responsibility and generosity in donating its valuable services to these two important sites.